

"THE DAILY LESSON"
is an activity of the study group found at: www.iwso.org
The subject for our current study is the entire book
"The Thunder of Silence"
By Joel S Goldsmith

The Daily Lesson is a progression of excerpts from tapes recorded by Joel,
or from his books or writings.

It appears here and in email format each day,
together with the addition of corroborating scripture
and inspired comments by the Practitioner and Teacher ~Al Denninger,
to take into meditation and live with throughout your day.

Students note: There are words that are capitalized throughout this work.
These words are used as if they are a synonym for, or as an activity of God.
The portions that are *italicized* are spontaneous meditations.

"The Daily Lesson – July 10, 2016

CHAPTER IX

THIS IS A SPIRITUAL UNIVERSE

Several years ago when I was on my way to South Africa, I stopped off for a day in the Belgian Congo, and after the man in charge of the bookings and his assistant had taken care of all my tickets, made whatever examinations were necessary, and weighed my luggage, I called a little native boy to carry my three bags out to the plane which I was boarding for Johannesburg. This was such a small air station that I could see the boy as he walked out of the gate onto the field with one large piece of baggage in each hand and a small piece under his arm. A few minutes later he returned without any baggage and I said to him questioningly, 'O.K.?' to which he replied, 'O.K.'

When I arrived in Johannesburg the next morning, there was only the one tiny little piece of baggage waiting for me, and the other two large pieces were missing. Immediately, the personnel of this tremendously big and active airport at Johannesburg began searching for my baggage, but they did not find it in the enclosure nor was it with the crew's baggage; and furthermore when they sent someone to search the plane, there was no baggage there, either. The person in charge of the airline said that he would immediately contact the station in the Belgian Congo and would soon have an answer for me, so there was nothing for me to do but go to my hotel.

The Infinite Way students in Johannesburg had arranged for me to visit Krueger National Park, so after buying some necessary clothing, we started out on our three-day trek through this fabulous wild-animal preserve with the full expectation of picking up my baggage when we returned. But upon our return no baggage had as yet been found. The only explanation the airline had to offer was that somebody must have stolen it, and

that that somebody must have been the little native boy and a confederate because the last time the bags were seen was when he had picked them up and carried them out onto the field. The absurdity of such an assumption should have been apparent at once because certainly nobody could have taken those two heavy pieces of luggage away from the airfield without being noticed. Nevertheless, all the native quarters in the town were searched, and the place turned upside down because the authorities were convinced that a theft had occurred. Despite all this hullabaloo, however, no baggage was found.

For three weeks, I was in South Africa without baggage and without money—without purse and without scrip—but this was no great hardship because I ate regularly, my hotel bills were paid, and clothing was purchased, although only the absolute necessities, because I was convinced that my bags would show up, which was a very wrong conviction.

Two nights before I was to leave for India, I sat down to give this whole incident some serious consideration. ‘This represents a failure on my part. What is that failure? What has gone wrong here?’

As I sat in my room, pondering and meditating, finally the answer came: ‘This is a spiritual universe, and yet here I am waiting for baggage, when the truth of the matter is there isn't any baggage. All that baggage is, is part of the belief of time and space—space that is occupied by baggage, time in which it could be lost, and space in which it could be lost. Here we are trying to find baggage, which if it were found would only be an evidence that the human scene had been manipulated.

‘There is no truth to this whole picture because we are living in a spiritual universe where nobody has any need of baggage. Whatever there is of reality is incorporeal, spiritual, and omnipresent; and whatever appears as finite baggage in time and space must be an image in thought, and it can have no reality to it; so I have been fooled into hoping and waiting for material baggage to turn up in a spiritual universe where every idea is omnipresent.’

With that I retired.

The story came to a quick conclusion after that realization. The assistant manager of the airline at the station in Johannesburg was seated at his desk at eight o'clock the next morning when, apparently out of nothing, the thought came to him, ‘Baggage can't dissolve into thin air. It just couldn't disappear between here and there—it has to be somewhere. Just where is it?’ Suddenly another idea struck him, and he went to the hotel where the crew was lodged on overnight stops, and there were the two pieces of baggage on the floor where they had been waiting for three weeks. Nobody had thought of that possibility; in fact, nobody thought of any kind of a practical solution until *I stopped thinking about baggage*.

This story illustrates a very important point in spiritual living and healing. Ordinarily, in metaphysics we would think, 'Oh, well, it has to turn up' or 'It can't be lost.' In other 'Words, we would be dealing with an *it*—an *it* called baggage. The fallacy of this method of meeting a problem is immediately apparent because in the case of illness, in order to be consistent, we would have to give a treatment that dealt specifically with heart, liver, lungs, stomach, digestion, elimination, head, or foot, and we would be completely outside the realm of spiritual being. Most of us do know enough not to treat people by name and we know enough not to treat hearts, livers, and lungs; but just see how easily we can be fooled into looking for baggage." ~Joel S Goldsmith

(And the following right after the Resurrection of Jesus:)

Luke 24:13-16 (KJV)

13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.

14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

"The two men in this story in Luke were two of Jesus disciples that has just seen Jesus crucified and entombed days before. They were talking and reasoning about the events of the previous day while walking to Emmaus – believing it – accepting it and moving forward in their human way. They were holden to what they reasoned. They saw Jesus Christ killed and buried to human law. It would never occur to them that He was still right there, walking with them.

You see. We can believe our thoughts and logic more the Christ standing right beside us now. We can plug into lost baggage. We can reason our way into believing almost any other picture rather than acknowledge God's Spiritual Universe." ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 11, 2016

"We become very sure of ourselves and believe that we are going along in the right direction, and then all of a sudden the hypnotism of human sense can make us think about baggage or the lack of it. Now please understand that I was not concerned about the loss of the baggage: My mistake was that I was sure it would turn up, which is exactly like being sure that a person's heart is going to get well, or that his sick foot is going to be better; whereas the principle upon which all our work is based is that of the real creation as recounted in the first chapter of Genesis in which God made all that was made, and all that He made is good.

The spiritual creation is an incorporeal creation, and the proof of that is that there was light before there was a sun in the sky. If we live and move and have our being in the spiritual creation as set forth in the first chapter of Genesis, we can have everything we need without having baggage. The sense-world, that which we can see, hear, taste, touch, and smell, is the unreal creation described in the second chapter of Genesis—a mental image in mind. If we remember that, we shall not try to manipulate the human scene or handle the mental image which exists only as a shadow within our thought, and then we shall be witnesses to the quick dissolution of these mental images." ~Joel S Goldsmith

Gen 1:1 (KJV)

1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Gen 1:31 (to .) (KJV)

31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good.

"No thing and no one is ever left out of the Omnipresence of God. You are included in the Kingdom of God. Behold it. Rejoice... (Say this with me: Behold, the Kingdom is Within. I Am that I Am, and there is none else.)" ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 12, 2016

"Do not mistake or misunderstand what I am saying: I know that when we are traveling baggage seems real and necessary. I also know that most of the time our *concept* of body seems real because one thing or another brings it into our awareness, and because of that, there is the temptation to think of it as real. We do not deny the body. It is real, but what we see as body is not body: It is a mental image within our own thought—a universal mental concept, individualized within us.

There is no such thing as a material body: There is only a material concept of body. There is no such thing as a material universe: There are only material concepts of the one spiritual universe. As long as we accept a material concept of universe, we are under the laws of matter, but we are free as soon as we begin to understand that we live and move and have our being in the first chapter of Genesis where man is made in the image and likeness of God, or Spirit, and that the Soul of God is the Soul of man, the life of God is the life of man, the mind of God is the mind of man, the body of God is the body of man." ~Joel S Goldsmith

Rom 8:5-11 (KJV)

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death [limited]; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace [Infinite Expressions of Spirit].

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

10 And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

"There is only one sin – and that is when we "think" [universal material concept] we are separate and apart from the Kingdom of God. This must be taught from man to man – for it is certainly not of God. We can be lifted out of this sense of mistaken identity, but we must do that Spirit to Spirit, Soul to Soul." ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 13, 2016

“Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost—not the body as it is seen in the mirror, but as it actually is. Just as my realization that we were not dealing with material baggage, but with Omnipresence, immediately awakened the one man necessary to the demonstration—awakened him to the idea of Omnipresence—and right where he was, was where he found the baggage, so in times of problems, to understand what body is and what this universe is, is to arrive at a realization that would bring the solution:

I live and move and have my being in God; I am in my Father, and my Father is in me. How can I be finite or limited if an infinite Father is within me? How can a finite, limited being have an infinite God within Him? Therefore, I must be as spiritual as the Father that created me.

All being must be spiritual, and into this spiritual creation, nothing finite can enter to limit or create any sense of separation.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

I Cor 6:19 (KJV)

19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

“I can do nothing of mine own self. The Father within doeth the work and I am Included in his Infinite Expression. Therefore, I and the Father are One in Spirit and One in Expression.” ~al.within

The Daily Lesson – July 14, 2016

“The suffering of this world is due to our looking around for a piece of material baggage—even expecting it to be in its right place. That is the error. There is no place for you or me or for any ‘he,’ ‘she,’ or ‘it,’ except in the only place where it is to be found and that is in Omnipresence, where even that which to human sense seems absent is present.

On a cloudy day, the sun seems to be absent when it is merely hidden from our view. Just so, the clouds of human belief and the density of human thought may temporarily hide from us that which is omnipresent, that which is present where *I am*. And what is it that is present where *I am*? All that the Father has is omnipresent—integrity, loyalty, fidelity, eternality, immortality, justice, freedom, joy, harmony of every name and nature—unless we *finitize* it and see it as a piece of baggage, something that occupies time and space.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

Mark 4:35-40 (KJV)

35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

“What is healing? Is it a correction of finite matter – or is it a Realization of ever-present Truth?” ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 15, 2016

“Nothing occupies time or space but our mental images, and the reason they do is because we accept a yesterday, a today, and a tomorrow. The minute we rise above the mental realm of life, we shall perceive that there is no such thing as time. Anyone who has ever made a God-contact has discovered that he had no awareness of time while he was in that experience, because even though the contact may have lasted only half a minute, enough took place in that half minute to convince him that several hours must have gone by. Other times when the contact is made, it may seem that something like a minute must have gone by, and then when we look at our watch we find that two or three hours have elapsed.

In other words, there is no such thing as an awareness of either time or space in the consciousness of Omnipresence. We are in the mental state of consciousness when we are thinking and reasoning, or when we are beholding anything as person or thing. It is only in the spiritual realm that we transcend mind.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

John 18:36 (to :) (KJV)

36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world:

“So then, why does this-world love to look for the Kingdom of God exactly where Jesus said not to? We must be raised, above the sense of conscious effort. Yes, but we do not do the ‘raising’ - God does... Let Him.” ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 16, 2016

“People have sought for a way to transcend mind through a process which has been described as stilling the mind, and they have found that such attempts frequently result, not in achieving spiritual consciousness, but in quite the opposite effect, a dulling of consciousness. There is a way, however, in which we can rise above the mental level of life, although we may not be able to remain there permanently because to do that requires years and years of devotion to this and to nothing else; but we can rise above mind to such a degree that, at least when we are in the world, it will no longer disturb us to any great extent.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

Matt 5:6 (KJV)

6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

“Pray joyfully without ceasing. Keep an attitude of Awareness and Opening, not one of an mental exercise of shutting down... The Kingdom of Life is about Living, Loving and Beholding the Splendor of the Activity of Christ Consciousness.” ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 17, 2016

“A beginning can be made by not attempting to stop our thinking processes. If the mind wants to think, we let it, and if necessary, even sit and watch it as it goes through the thinking process. No matter what thoughts come, they can do us no harm. They have no power, and there is nothing in them for us to fear. If we fear or hate them, we may try to stop them, and on the other hand if we love them, we may try to hold on to them. So let us not hate or fear any thought that comes to our mind, but also let us not love or try to hold on to any thought regardless of how good it may seem to be.

We let the thoughts come and go while we sit and watch as beholders. All we are looking at are shadows that flit across the screen: There is no power in them, nor any substance; there is no law in them, nor any cause—they are just shadows. Some of them may be very sweet, and we may want to cling to them. Some may disturb or frighten us, but they are only thoughts—thoughts and nothing else. They may testify to disease; they may testify to sin, or they may testify to accident, but no matter how frightening they are, we sit unmoved and watch them come and go:

There is neither good nor evil in what I am beholding: These things are merely pictures, without power. They cannot do anything; they cannot testify to anything; and even if they seem to be good, they are not good because they are only pictures.

If we try this little experiment in our meditation periods, we soon will see that we have suffered because these pictures and thoughts have so flooded us and we have become so frightened that we have tried to run away from them or blot them out; and yet, when we are able to see them in their correct perspective, they are inoffensive nothingness, just shadows.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

John 19:10,11 (to :) (KJV)

10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?

11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above:

“Christ Consciousness cannot be threatened. It also cannot be tempted into believing anything other than the Word from Above [Within].

Watch the distracting monkey-mind with nothing but a smile, while Knowing the truth of Omnipotence.” ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 18, 2016

"True, sometimes they (thoughts) represent man-made theories or manmade rules with man-made punishment attached to them. But does that endow them with authority? So let us look at them: This one testifies to infection and contagion, and that one to false appetites. The next one is a prophecy of disaster, another one is a fear of lack, and still another is a fear of fear; but the truth is that these are only names, terrible names certainly because of their tragic connotation, but nevertheless only names—names that Adam gave to something which he did not understand—only images in thought.

Let us stop being afraid of names. Even if it is a picture on an x-ray machine, why should we be afraid of it? It is still only a picture, a picture of mind's image. When we no longer have it in mind, it is no longer possible to have a picture of it. We can only take in pictures of that which is being held in mind. If we can see it, hear it, taste it, touch it, or smell it, it is an activity of mind, a mental image, the 'arm of flesh'—nothingness. It is a false creation which God never made." ~Joel S Goldsmith

Matt 5:39 (to :) (KJV)

39 But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil:

"Would we resist something if we were not aware of it? Evil is a man-created in thought. Resisting a mental image is giving something power it never had. A dream only seems real until you wake up." ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 19, 2016

"All the time that we are thinking this, we are still in the mental realm, the realm of knowing the truth; but as we continue this exercise, looking squarely at the picture, we begin to realize that it is a picture without substance or cause. Regardless of how material the condition appears to be, it is not any more material than was my lost baggage, and that was not material: It was a mental image, the realization of which revealed Omnipresence." ~Joel S Goldsmith

Luke 12:29-31 (to ;) (KJV)

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God;

I Cor 8:6 (to ;) (KJV)

6 But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him;

"As we continually practice the Presence, the dream of things-thought-of begins to fade. We begin to be grateful for things not of this world... And the Light Brightens into Omnipresent Reality." ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 20, 2016

“Sometimes in following such a practice, people are likely to see beautiful pictures or visions, and then they make the mistake, first of all, of trying to hold on to them, and then they make a second mistake of wanting to bring them back at some future time. This is very unwise. We should never do that, never hold on to even a beautiful image, because it is only an image. If it is of God, God can give us as many more as we need, and if it is an unpleasant picture, we must learn not to be afraid of it because it has no existence as externalized reality, but only as a mental image.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

Matt 5:36 (KJV)

36 Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black.

John 4:24 (KJV)

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

“Mental work is working in the flesh. God’s Work is in Spirit...

What do you want to do?” ~Al Denninger

The Daily Lesson – July 21, 2016

“Eventually, we come to a place where there is nothing more to be said or thought, so we have only one last word for it:

Regardless of what you seem to be or claim to be, there are no properties of good or evil inherent in you. All properties are in the Consciousness that made this universe in Its own image and likeness, and neither good nor evil is in form or effect.

Whatever your name or nature, if you exist in time or space, you are a mental image, a nothingness. I do not have to fear you because you have no existence in my or anyone's being. You have existence only in mind, and as a mind-existence, you are without form and void. You have no more good or evil in you than the picture on the moving-picture screen —you are just a substanceless shadow.

When we achieve complete quietness and peace, the mind is no longer functioning, and we have transcended mind and risen into the atmosphere of Spirit, in which we are receptive and responsive to whatever God imparts. As soon as we become unattached, that is, as soon as we are detached from thought—from hate, fear, or love of objects or people so that they can float in front of our eyes with the utmost indifference to us—we are no longer in the realm of mind: We are then reaching, touching, or being touched by our own Soul, which is God, and we are in an atmosphere where, when God speaks, we can hear Him. When God utters His voice, the earth melts, and all problems dissolve.” ~Joel S Goldsmith

Gen 1:2-4 (to :) (KJV)

2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good:

Zech 4:6 Not (KJV)

6 ...Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.

“Be still. Surrender your self until there is no surrendering left to do... Let the Light [Activity of Christ Consciousness] Flow into your empty vessel. Let the Peace that passeth understanding Live, and move, and have Its Being.” ~Al Denninger

This concludes Chapter 9 of the book, “The Thunder of Silence” by Joel S Goldsmith. Tomorrow we begin Chapter 10, “Ye Have Heard It Said of Old”.